

Brother J. A. Miller and the boys of the Bible class, on Monday morning, attended a meeting of the ministers of this town, and listened to a very able paper by Rev. Dawson, of the M. E. church, on "The Inspiration of the Bible." They report a pleasant, interesting, and profitable meeting.

What the Saloon Costs

Even the daily papers are beginning to realize that the saloon is nothing but an expense to the country and a breeder of crime. It takes courage for a daily paper to say what the *Inter-Ocean* says, in the following:

"You may ransack the pigeon holes all over the city and country," said the presiding judge of one of the Chicago courts, "and look over such annual reports as are made up, but they will not tell half the truth. Not only are the saloons of Chicago responsible for the cost of the police force, the fifteen justice courts, the Bidewell, but also the criminal courts, the county jail, a great portion of Joliet state prison, the long murder trials, the coroner's office, the morgue, the poorhouse, the reform schools, the madhouse.

"Go anywhere you please, and you will find almost invariably that whisky is at the root of the evil. The gambling houses of the city and all other evil resorts are the direct outgrowth of the boon companions of drink. Of all the boys in the reform school at Pontiac, and in various reformatories about the city, ninety-five per cent. are the children of parents who died thru drink, or became criminals thru the same cause. Of the insane or demented cases disposed of here in the court every Thursday, a moderate estimate is that ninety per cent. are caused by alcohol.

"I saw estimated, the other day, that there were ten thousand destitute boys in Chicago who are not confined at all, but are running at large. I think that is a small estimate. Men are sent to jail for drunkenness, and what becomes of their families? The county agent and poorhouse provide for some. It is a direct expense to the community. Generally speaking, these families go to destruction. The boys turn out thieves and the girls and the mothers generally resort to the slums. The sandbaggers, murderers, and thugs generally of to-day, who are prosecuted in the police courts and criminal courts, are the sons of men who fell victims of drink. The percentage in this case is fully sixty-five per cent.

Glenford, Ohio

Below please find my report as secretary of Ohio Mission Board, for 1899: Ankneytown, \$5 88; Columbus, \$1.00; Louisville, \$7.65; Ashland City, \$3.00; balance from last month, \$33.87; total, \$51.40; paid to Bro. Copp, \$20.00; total cash on hands, \$31.40.

Brief Notes

Doing nothing is first cousin to doing wrong.

The most convincing argument bearing upon your religion or your doctrine is *you*.

That holiness profession which is not backed up by a clean life needs an application of soap.

That for which we may not pray should be quickly cast away. What we hide from God's sweet light can be neither wise nor right.

If you wish to keep Responsibility in a good temper, send for Duty to bear her constant company.

LOST: A large amount of valuable time. Whoever finds and returns this property may claim any reward he likes. Give it to the first man you meet, and you will not go amiss.

A recent earthquake, at Santiago caused considerable excitement among the population. But even the most tremendous convulsions of nature will not make a man mend his ways.

A woman who moved from the freedom of a Nebraska farm to the cramped quarters and inevitable poverty of a New York tenement was crazed by the change. The wonder is that any sane person would make such a choice; and yet there are those who move away from all the bounty and freedom of God's love into the poverty and barrenness of the world.

A boy while disobeying his mother was bitten by a dog. Because the accident happened to him while in an act of disobedience, he said nothing about it. The final result was hydrophobia, from which he died in great agony. A very good illustration of the fatal chain whose first link is disobedience to God.

A Spiritualist Medium has told her followers that gold can be found at a certain spot near Rochester, N. Y., and they are digging and blasting for it very industriously. They will probably be disappointed, as will the victims of every other delusion who substitute the things that perish, the world's ephemeral gold, for that "gold that is tried in the fire." It is marvelous how easy it is for men to "believe a lie."

A ship loaded with coffee, but having on board a much more important cargo in the shape of the Bubonic Plague, cast anchor in New York harbor a short time since, and continues to excite considerable interest. She will not be allowed to land, or to have any communion with the city, or to unload her cargo, for fear that the terrible infection may be fastened upon the teeming population thereabouts. The rum infection, however, which works far greater damage to the community, is freely allowed in the city. Give disease and death a sugar coating of self-indulgence, and men cheerfully swallow it.

Brooklyn's great preacher, Rev. Dr. Storrs, has resigned a pastorate which has continued unbroken for 3 years. His letter of resignation was a beautiful document, full of tender feeling and wise counsel. There is something strikingly beautiful in a pastorate of such long standing, where pastor and people have grown together, in sympathy with the progress of the times illustrating the spirit of Christ in wide enlargement of his Kingdom, the advocacy of practical righteousness, and the guidance of souls in this life pilgrimage. Fifty three years active service for Christ; what a record of honor that is.

General Olmstead, chief Astronomer of the Albany Observatory, was one day following the declining sun until his great telescope was level with the horizon. Six miles away, he saw some boys stealing apples. They had posted sentinels to watch against detection, and thought that no eye saw them. All unconscious were they of that great eye far away which observed their every action. What a vivid illustration of the eye of God, from which nothing can be hid.

The Naval Board recommends 18 new war vessels, several of which are to be large battle ships, and others are to be cruisers of considerable size. This

is making rapid progress toward a "greater navy," equipped to do an immense amount of killing in a short space of time. When the time comes to beat swords into plow shares, there will be plenty of old iron for the purpose.

In Massachusettes they have neighborhood parties called "Measuring Socials," in which the participants find their several parts and situations according to their respective measurements. We might call a certain other great event in the future by a similar name, since the destiny of each one will depend upon his measuring up to a certain standard.

It is said that Congress will be asked to enlarge the White House by a million dollar addition. It is a pretty big and pretty fine house as it is, but even after the million dollars shall have been spent on enlarging and beautifying it, it will not begin to compare with the mansions which will be inhabited by those successful candidates for eternal life whom God elects to that dignity and glory.

A "Gordon of the South," asks to be assigned the place of the "Logan of the North" who was killed in battle in the Philippine war. This kind of military gallantry is much applauded, and from the standpoint of a soldier deserves to be. But little is said of that gallantry of the cross, where undesirable and perilous places where others have fallen victims to deadly diseases or fierce savages, are eagerly sought by numerous volunteers. There are yet to be found Christians who appear to have a passion for the crown of martyrdom, who are actually willing to die for Christ, and who count it great gain if they can exchange the weariness of this world for the joy and glory of the world to come.

A naturalist saw a peculiar species of fly joyously bathing on the surface of a pool of water, but careful all the while not to wet their wings, so that they could fly away. This contains a pretty lesson for Christians, who, tho in the world, and compelled to plunge into its material activities, should never the less keep their wings dry so that they can soar above the world into the more congenial atmosphere of spiritual things. Don't allow the wings of your soul to lose for a moment their power to lift you out of the gross into the supernal world.

A tremendous explosion of a gas main in New York the other day tore up the street, broke all the windows in the neighborhood, shook tall buildings like an earthquake, and killed and wounded several persons. A moment before the explosion occurred the street, well paved and solid, invited the traveler to trust it, but without a moment's warning it was a volcano. It is thus with some religious broad ways, nicely fixed and much advertised, which nevertheless conceal hidden dangers of which pilgrims had well beware. There are underground perils of various kinds which it is well to bear in mind when we make choice of a route thru this world.

A man in a city court accuses his wife, and mother of his children, that she will not allow them to be taught the Lord's prayer. One would think that her natural love would, in the total absence of religious principle, at least tolerate the idea of a divine Protector, Father and Guide, for creature so helpless and so much exposed to innumerable perils as little children are. But experience has shown that there is a principle of human action stronger yet than natural affection, and that is natural depravity. Nothing short of God's power can cure a case so desperate as that. All creeds, and all so called religions, were represented at the Congress of Religions in Chicago, but one day was seen all these widely differing men reverently repeating in union the Lord's Prayer. It was a spectacle more impressive than the architectural miracles of the great World's Fair.

The best proof that one's sins are forgiven is the new life, new walk and conversation.